

Begin the Beguine

Words & Music by Cole Porter, 1935

Recorded by Artie Shaw, 1936

A A6 AM7 A6 A A6 AM7 A6
When they begin the beguine,

A A6 AM7 A6 E7
It brings back the sound of music so tender,

Bm Bm7 Bm Bm7
It brings back a night of tropical splendor,

Bm7-5 E7 E7sus4 E7 A9 A
It brings back a memory ever green.

A A6 AM7 A6 A A6 AM7 A6
I'm with you once more under the stars,

A AM7 F#m7 E7
And down by the shore, an orchestra's playing;

E7 Bm7-5 E7 D
And even the palms seem to be swaying

E7 E7sus4 E7 A A6 AM7 A6
When they begin the beguine.

Bridge:

Am D7 G
To live it again is past all endeavor

Gm C7 FM7 F
Except when that tune clutches my heart,

Cdim Dm E F
And there we are, swearing to love forever,

E Dm7 E E7
And promising never, never to part.

A A6 AM7 A6 A A6 AM7 A6
What moments divine, what rapture serene,

A A7 E7
Til clouds came along to disperse the joy we had tasted;

Dm Bm7-5
And now when I hear people curse the chance that was wasted,

E7 Bm7-5 E7 A9 A
I know but too well what they mean.

E7 A6 AM7 A6
So don't let them begin the beguine,

E7 A A6 E7
Let the love that was once a fire remain an ember;

Let it sleep like the dead desire I only re - mem - ber

When they begin the beguine.

Oh, yes, let them begin the beguine, make them play,

Til the stars that were there before return above you,

Til you whisper to me once more, "Darling, I love you."

And we suddenly know . . . what heaven we're in

When they begin the beguine,

When they begin the beguine.